



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Costa et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/876,364

GROUP ART UNIT: 1744

FILED: June 7, 2001

EXAMINER: Chorbaji

FOR: VESSELS AND COVERS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 14077/257986

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as certified first class mail in an envelope addressed to: : Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 14, 2006

Gina Hamrick
Gina Hamrick

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE: April 14, 2006

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office action dated December 30, 2006, and the Interview Summary Record dated March 3, 2006 Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in connection with this application.

Amendments to the claims begin at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin at page 6 of this paper.